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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APR 18 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT

Docket Number:  
11641/30

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Application Number  
10/033,863

Filing Date  
December 19, 2001

Examiner  
Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit  
1732

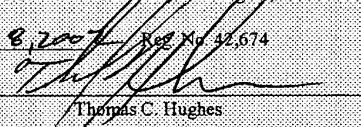
Invention Title  
**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR HANDLING  
MEMBRANES**

Inventors  
**OSTUNI et al.**

Address to:  
Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Date: April 8, 2002 Reg. No. 42,674

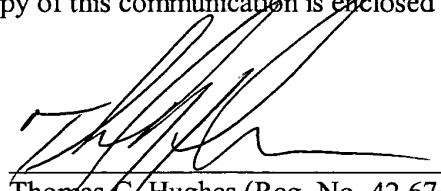
Signature:   
Thomas C. Hughes

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TC 1700

1. In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with the procedures of 35 U.S.C. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, attorneys for Applicants hereby bring the following references to the attention of the Examiner. These references are listed on the attached modified PTO Form No. 1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.
2. A copy of each patent, publication or other information listed on the modified PTO form 1449 is enclosed.
3. It is believed that no fees are due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 11-0600 for such fees. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for charging purposes.

Dated: April 8, 2002

By:

  
Thomas C. Hughes (Reg. No. 42,674)

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT PTO FORM 1449</b>	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 11641/30	SERIAL NO. 10/033,863
	APPLICANT OSTUNI et al.	APR 18 2002
	FILING DATE December 19, 2001	TECH CENTER 1600/2900P 1732

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TTC 1700

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	PATENT DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE*
	4,748,124	May 31, 1988	Vogler			
	5,512,131	April 30, 1996	Kumar et al.			
	5,776,748	July 7, 1998	Singhvi et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	WO 99/54786	28 October 1999	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.
		Laurent Libioule et al., "Contact-Inking Stamps for Microcontact Printing of Alkanethiols on Gold", Langmuir, 1999, 15, 300-304
		David C. Duffy et al., "Patterning Electroluminescent Materials with Feature Sizes as Small as 5 $\mu$ m Using Elastomeric Membranes as Masks for Dry Lift-Off", Advanced Materials, 1999, 11 No. 7
		Christopher S. Chen et al., "Using Self-Assembled Monolayers to Pattern ECM Proteins and Cells on Substrates", Methods in Molecular Biology, vol. 139
		Albert Folch and Mehmet Toner, "Microengineering of Cellular Interactions", Annual Review of Biomedical Engineering, Vol. 2, 2000
		Emanuele Ostuni et al., "Patterning Mammalian Cells Using Elastomeric Membranes", Langmuir, June 21, 2000
		Rebecca J. Jackman et al., "Using Elastomeric Membranes as Dry Resists and for Dry Lift-Off", Lagmuir 1999, 15 2973-2984
		Albert Folch et al., "Microfabricated elastomeric stencils for micropatterning cell cultures", John Wiley & Son, Inc. March 9, 2000, 346-353

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	